

This Page Is Inserted by IFW Operations  
and is not a part of the Official Record

## **BEST AVAILABLE IMAGES**

Defective images within this document are accurate representations of the original documents submitted by the applicant.

Defects in the images may include (but are not limited to):

- BLACK BORDERS
- TEXT CUT OFF AT TOP, BOTTOM OR SIDES
- FADED TEXT
- ILLEGIBLE TEXT
- SKEWED/SLANTED IMAGES
- COLORED PHOTOS
- BLACK OR VERY BLACK AND WHITE DARK PHOTOS
- GRAY SCALE DOCUMENTS

**IMAGES ARE BEST AVAILABLE COPY.**

**As rescanning documents *will not* correct images,  
please do not report the images to the  
Image Problem Mailbox.**

## II. SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 10, line 25 through page 11, line 23 as rewritten below:

For example, and as shown in Fig. 3, there is illustrated the use of a perforated belt 20 much like a vacuum corrugation feeder in reverse, in which a positive gauge pressure is maintained in the plenum 21 instead of a vacuum, the plenum being positioned within a housing (not shown). The perforated belt 20 employs relatively small diameter holes 25 or relatively narrow width slots, or both. Hole diameter is determined by Nusselt Number, which must be optimized for a round impinging jet with forced connective flow directed normally against a flat surface. An example of a hole diameter that can be used with the present invention are holes of about 1m in diameter. The holes 25 (openings) which form the air jets can be arranged in various patterns, including square or staggered-row patterns or chevron row patterns or others. In one embodiment using jet holes 25, the spacing between holes is about four times the diameter of the holes 25. In an exemplary embodiment using openings 25 in the form of slots, the spacing between the slots 25 is about four times the slot width in the belt feed direction 24 and the length of each slot is about 100 times the slot width running in the direction across the feed direction of the belt 20. The total open area of the holes 25 and/or slots, and the delivered volumetric air flow rates are expected to provide an air impingement jet velocity of about 5.55 meters per second, i.e. about 18.2 feet per second. In some embodiments according to the invention, the holes ~~±54~~25 or slots ~~±54~~25 were provided with rounded edges to

lower flow pressure loss and to provide a relatively wider air jet flow distribution profile.